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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/632,149	07/30/2003	David R. Fitzpatrick	102636.57988US	1871
23911	7590	07/17/2007		
CROWELL & MORING LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP P.O. BOX 14300 WASHINGTON, DC 20044-4300			EXAMINER LIU, I JUNG	
			ART UNIT 3691	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/17/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/632,149

Applicant(s)

FITZPATRICK ET AL.

Examiner

Marissa Liu

Art Unit

3691

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/11/2006.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being unpatentable by Finkelstein et al., US Pub. No.: 2001/0037284 A1 (PTO 892 form A).

3. As per claim 1, Finkelstein et al. teaches a system for managing collateral allocation and substitution in general collateral repurchase agreements, comprising:

a plurality of trader terminals; an intermediary computer system adapted to:

communicate with each trader terminal via one or more communication links

(Figs. 1-2; abstract); facilitate agreements between buyers and sellers for sale of collateral (§ 0005; ¶ 0057; ¶ 0073);

receive allocation instructions for an agreement from a seller trading terminal

(Figs. 3-4; abstract); store information regarding collateral that has been allocated and mark said collateral as allocated (Fig. 3-4);

receive substitution instructions from a seller trading terminal to substitute allocated collateral, wherein:

if there is one buyer who is allocated the exact amount of collateral that the seller wishes to substitute, that buyer is substituted (§ 0073-0074; claim 18);

otherwise, if there is one buyer who is allocated a higher amount of the collateral that the seller wishes to substitute, and that amount is sufficient for the substitution, that one buyer is substituted (§ 0073-0074; claim 18); and otherwise, buyers have their collateral substituted on the basis of a priority determination (§ 0021; § 0073-0074; claim 18).

1. As per claim 2, Finkelstein et al. teaches the system of claim 1 described above.

Finkelstein et al. further teaches wherein only buyers with allocated collateral having equal rights of substitution to collateral allocated by the seller are eligible for the substitution (§ 0021; § 0073-0074; claim 18).

2. As per claim 3, Finkelstein et al. teaches the system of claim 1 described above.

Finkelstein et al. further teaches wherein the priority determination is a time priority determination (§ 0021).

3. As per claim 4, Finkelstein et al. teaches the system of claim 1 described above.

Finkelstein et al. further teaches wherein at least one of the communication links is established via a virtual private network (§ 0081; § 0102-0105).

4. As per claim 5, Finkelstein et al. teaches the system of claim 1 described above.

Finkelstein et al. further teaches wherein at least one of the communication links is established via a private line (§ 0081; § 0102-0105).

5. As per claim 6, Finkelstein et al. teaches the system of claim 1 described above.

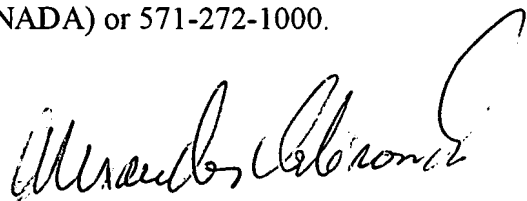
Finkelstein et al. further teaches wherein at least one of the communication links is established via the Internet (§ 0103).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa Liu whose telephone number is 571-270-1370. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander G. Kalinowski can be reached on 571-272-6711. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



ALEXANDER KALINOWSKI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER